

**Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training**

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Subject: Pursuit Policy Development and Training

This bulletin provides information and a link to resources to assist law enforcement agencies in achieving compliance with the legislative mandate for vehicular pursuit policy and training.

With the 2005 passage of Senate Bill 719 (Romero – Police Pursuits), effective on July 1, 2007, Vehicle Code §17004.7 requires agency personnel that are authorized by law to conduct vehicular pursuits and who wish to qualify for immunity to have in place a pursuit policy that addresses POST-developed pursuit guidelines (pursuant to Penal Code §13519.8). Additionally, agencies must annually train all of their peace officers on the agency's pursuit policy to qualify for immunity. All agency peace officers must have completed the required training before July 1, 2007, and must have signed an attestation certifying that they have received, read, and understand agency policy. POST has established a minimum standard of one-hour duration for the annual training.

The POST website provides access at http://www.post.ca.gov/vehicle_pursuit/default.asp to the guidelines for pursuit policy development as well as training specifications outlined in POST Regulation §1081 (a) (22). The website also provides links to Vehicle Code §17004.7, Penal Code §13519.8, and a sample attestation form.

Note: When accessed online via the POST website, the Pursuit Guidelines and Regulation 1081 (a) (22) appear as “draft” documents. This is because, while the POST Commission has approved both, they are still pending routine technical review by the state's Office of Administrative Law.

In March 2007, POST released its new “Pursuit Driving Update” Telecourse video that, when used in conjunction with an agency's specific pursuit policy, may be used to satisfy the training requirement. POST has also developed a special “Executive Alert” online video clip that informs executives of local law enforcement agencies about the new mandate for vehicular pursuit policy and training. The Executive Alert video briefing is ten minutes long and is available online at <http://movfactory.com/executivealert/>.

Please direct questions regarding Senate Bill 719 and Pursuit Policy/Training to Senior Consultant Bryon G. Gustafson at 916.227.3902 or at Bryon.Gustafson@post.ca.gov.

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